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ADMINISTRATIVE-TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION OF BULGARIA

The following report on the administrative-territorial organization of Bulgaria and the jurisdiction of Bulgarian local governments is based on an FDD study of current Bulgarian press articles and a census report of 1946.

Bulgaria is divided into three types of administrative-territorial divi-

- 1. Okrug (first-order administrative-territorial division)
- 2. Okoliya (second-order administrative-territorial division)
- 3. Obshtina (third-order administrative-territorial division)

There are 12 okrugs in Bulgaria. Each okrug includes several okoliyas, and each okoliya includes several obshtinas. An obshtina, which consists of one or more populated places, has a town or a village as its administrative center and hence is sometimes referred to as a gradskn (urban) obshtina or a selska (rural)

The following table lists the 12 okrugs with their respective okoliyas as of 3 October 1953:

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Blagoevgrad Okrug Burgas Okrug Khaskovo Okrug Kolarovgrad Okrug Pleven Okrug Blagoevgrad Plovdiv Okrug Ardino Kolarovgrad Lovech Gotse Delchev Asenovgrad Burgas Ivaylovgrad Novi Pazar Lukovit Petrich Devin Grudovo Kharmenli Omurtag Nikopol Razlog Levskigrad Elkhovo Khaskovo Popovo Pleven Sandanski Panagyurishte Kotel Krumovgrad Preslav Svishtov Pazardzhik Malko Turnovo Kurdzhali Turgovishte Teteven Peshtera Michurin Madan Troyan Plovdiv Polyanovgrad* Momchilgrad Purvomay Pomorie Svilengrad Smolyan

*Changed from Karnobat, according to Izvestiya, 29 September 1953.

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V. /Veliko/ Turnovo Okrus Ruse Okrug Sofia Okrug Stalin Okrug Stara Zagora Okrug Vratsa Okrug Byala Botevgrad Balchik Chirpan Dryanovo Belogradchik Dulovo BreznikGeneral Toshevo Elena Berkovitsa Isperikh Godech Provadiya Nova Zagora Byala Slatina Dimitrovo Stalin Sliven Gorna Oryakhovitsa Razgrad Elin Pelin Stara Zagora Pavlikeni Lom Ruse Topolovgrad Ikhtiman Tolbukhin Sevlievo Mikhaylovgrad Silistra Kyustendil Yambol Oryakhovo Pirdop Vidin Radomir Vratsa Samokov Sofia

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Stanke Dimitrov

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It should be noted that all 12 okrug centers are at the same time okoliya centers and obshtina centers, and that all okoliya centers are at the same time obshtina centers. Okrugs are named after their respective okrug centers, okotiya after their respective okoliya centers, and obshtinas after their respective okoliya centers.

Each of the 12 okrugs has an okrug people's soviet (okruzhen naroden suvet) as its local government. Each okoliya has an okoliya people's soviet (okoliyski okrug people's soviet. Each obshtina also has a local government, which is located in each obshtina center.

An obshtina center may be either a village or a town. If it is a village, the local government of the obshtina is a rural people's soviet (selski naroden If the obshtina center is a town, the local government of the obshtina is an If the obshtina center is a town, the local government of the obshtina is an risdiction either (a) of its okrug people's soviet or (b) of its okoliya people's soviet. The first case includes all towns which are okrug centers, several The second case includes all towns which is only an obshtina center. Onto under the jurisdiction of their respective okrug people's soviets: and all shina center, but whose urban people's soviets: and all shina center, but whose urban people's soviets: and obsortina center, but whose urban people's soviets is under the direct jurisdiction of the Khaskovo Okrug People's Soviet.

The census report of 31 December 1946 and Rabotnichesko Delo of 16 October 1952 misleadingly use the terms "gradska okoliya" (urban okoliya) and "selska okoliya" (rural okoliya) in connection with all okoliyas which have two people's soviets (an urban people's soviet and an okoliya people's soviet) under the direct jurisdiction of their respective okrug people's soviets. Most okoliyas have diction of their respective okrug people's soviet under the direct jurisdiction of their respective okrug people's soviets.

These two sources use the phrase "gradska okoliya" to mean any obshtina whose urban people's soviet is directly under the jurisdiction of its okrug people's soviet. Most obshtinas with urban people's soviets are under the direct jurisdiction of their respective okoliya people's soviets and not under the direct jurisdiction of their respective okrug people's soviets.

The same sources apply the expression "selska okoliya" to the collection of obshtinas of a given okoliya whose urban or rural people's soviets are under the jurisdiction of this okoliya's people's soviet. Thus, this use of the expression "selska okoliya" excludes the obshtina or obshtinas of a given okoliya which are referred to above as "gradska okoliya."

The following are obshtinas misleadingly called "gradska okoliva" whose urban people's soviets are directly under the jurisdiction of their respective okrug people's soviets (the obshtina centers of some of these obshtinas are at the same time okoliva and/or okrug centers):

Asenovgrad, Pazardzhik, Kolarovgrad, Kurdzhali, Blagoevgrad, Burgas, Dimitrovgrad, Dimitrovo, Gabrovo, Kazanluk, Khaskovo, Kyuctendil, Pleven, Plovdiv, Ruse, Sliven, Stalin, Stanke Dimitrov, Stara Zagora, Tolbukhin, Turnovo, Vidin, Vratsa, and Yambol. (This list corrects and brings up to date the list given in MIS-23, Section 52, page 7.)

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According to the census report of 31 December 1946, Sofia Obshtina is listed under Sofia Oblast (now Okrug), which implies that the Sofia Urban People's Soviet is under the jurisdiction of the Sofia Okrug People's Soviet. However, the article in Rabotnichesho Delo, 16 October 1952 referred to above lists Sofia City separately and not with the other okoliyas of Sofia Okrug, which implies that the Sofia Urban People's Soviet is on a par with the 12 okrug people's soviets and hence not under the jurisdiction of the Sofia Okrug People's Soviet. This further implies that the Sofia Urban People's Soviet is equivalent to an okrug people's soviet and hence is on a higher level than the Sofia Okoliya People's Soviet, which, like all the other okoliya people's soviets, is under the jurisdiction of its okrug people's soviet.

Sofia City is divided into six rayons, namely, Blagoev Rayon, Chervenkov Rayon, Dimitrov Rayon, Kirkov Rayon, Kolarov Rayon, and Stalin Rayon, all of which are divided into kvartals. Each of these rayons has a rayon people's soviet (rayonen naroden suvet) presumably under the jurisdiction of the Sofia Urban People's Soviet, i.e., the government of Sofia Obshtina, which includes Sofia City and nine surrounding villages.

Large towns such as Burgas and Stalin also have rayons. These, like the Sofia rayons, are governed by rayon people's soviets, which are subordinate to their respective urban people's soviets. Stalin includes the following kvartals: Asparukhovo, Khr. Botev, Dr (Doctor) Dimitrov, Avr. Gachev, Mikh, Ivanov, Bl. Kasabov, Dim. Kondov, Vasil Levski, Yanko Mikhaylov, Dim. St. Popov, Primorski, Rupi, Al. Stamboliyski, St. Staykov, and Tod. Strashimirov.

For detailed information on the tables of organization of okrug, okoliya, urban, and rural people's soviets,

The appended map, based on [Map] 11490, Map Division, CIA, 3-50, shows okrug and okoliya administrative-territorial divisions as of 29 September 1953. The approximate boundary of the new Madan Okoliya (see 00-W-25167) is designated by a light broken line in the case of the okoliya boundary and by a heavy broken line in the case of the okrug boundary which is part of the Madan Okoliya boundary.

NOTE: Besides obshtinas which include a city as their administrative center bearing the same name as the obshtinas, there are obshtinas which consist either of only villages or of a combination of villages and hamlets (makhala). In the case of obshtinas which consist of only villages, the administrative center of the obshtina also has the same name as the obshtina For example, Belkovtsi Obshtina in Breznik Okoliya includes three villages, namely Belkovtsi (the administrative center of Belkovtsi Obshtina), Slakovtsi, and Sopitsa.

In the case of obshtinas which consist of a combination of villages and hamlets, the administrative center of the obshtina can be a hamlet which is a part of the village whose name is identical with that of the obshtina. For example, Vakarel Obshtina in Ikhtiman Okoliya includes three villages, namely, Bogdanovtsi (which includes several hamlets), Burdo, and Vakarel (which also includes several hamlets, one of which, Khanovete, is the administrative center of Vakarel Obshtina).

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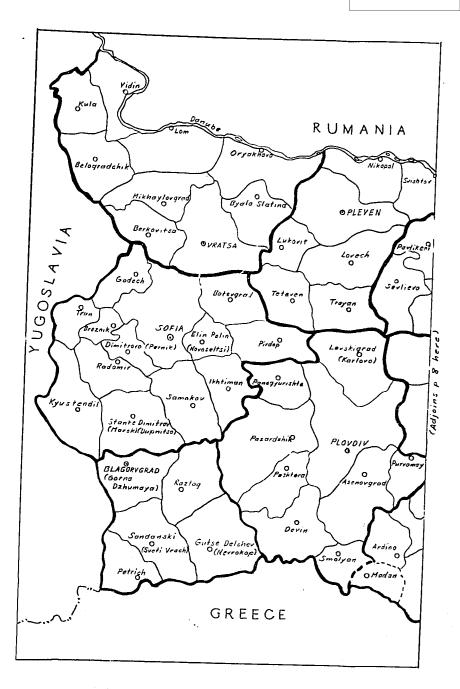


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